P27102.SS1 SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION MARKED-UP VERSION

DESCRIPTION
BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION
Field of the Invention

Building board for use in subfloors

The invention relates to a building board made [I]e of OSB (oriented strand board) which can be laid on [ ] beams, which are spaced apart parallel to one another, in order to form a subfloor in a residential or commercial building and [ ] which [I] has two mutually opposite longitudinal edges and two mutually opposite transverse edges running at right angles to the longitudinal edges, one longitudinal edge and one transverse edge in each case having a tongue and the opposite longitudinal edge and transverse edge having a groove corresponding to the tongue, via which a plurality of building boards can be connected to one another and locked in the vertical direction in relation to one another.

Background Description

Subfloors are required when roof spaces [U] in a house are being converted. The building boards are laid on the beams of the ceiling structure of the room beneath and are connected to these beams by being firmly nailed or screwed thereto. The building boards are provided with a tongue/groove profiling on [ ] their longitudinal and transverse sides. In order to produce a firm connection, the panels are glued to one another. For this purpose, a wood glue is introduced into the grooves of a panel which has already been laid and [I] the tongue of a new panel is then pushed or driven into the groove, and the new panel is subsequently fastened on the beams.

The actual floor covering, for example parquet or laminate panels, is then laid on the resulting subfloor.

If the building boards are not laid very carefully, th e tongue is not introduced all the way into the groove over its entire length. The longitudinal edges of the building boards then do not run parallel to one

another. An offset of a few millimeters between two building boards is barely visible, in the first instance, to the naked eye. With each connection, however, the angle errors of the laid boards accumulate. Depending on the size of the room, the deviation from the right-angled state may then be a few centimeters, so that complicated sawing is necessary at the end in order to allow the last boards in the interlocking arrangement to adjoin the wall.

US 4,426,820 discloses panels which are intended for forming a sports floor and are provided with a tongue/groove profiling both on the longitudinal side and on the transverse side. The cross section of the tongue corresponds to the cross section of the groove. Two panels may be connected to one another by virtue of the tongue side of one panel being placed, introduced and lowered into the groove side of the other panel. The panels are then locked in the horizontal direction both on the longitudinal sides and on the transverse sides. These panels are produced from plastic. Plastic has the property of allowing the groove and tongue profile to be injection molded at the same time as the panels are produced. Plastic also has the advantage of undergoing only small changes in dimension, if any at all, as a result of environmental influences.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

These panels produced from plastic are not suitable for forming a subfloor since, on the one hand, they are fairly expensive to produce and, on the other hand, they cannot be produced in such a size as to allow them to be laid at the predetermined unit spacing of 600 mm for a ceiling structure. The formation of the tongue/groove profiling along the longitudinal and transverse sides, moreover, makes the panels very complicated to lay, which is very time-consuming and thus further increases the costs of a roof conversion.

The object of the invention is to develop an OSB

building board for forming subfloors such that the boards can be reliably oriented parallel to one another and connected to one another, the intention being for the parallel state of the edges of the building boards to be maintained following connection.

In order to achieve the object, the building board of the generic type is distinguished in that the tongue and the groove on the longitudinal edge are designed such that two panels which are connected to one another at the longitudinal sides are also locked in a horizontal direction.

By virtue of this configuration, two boards latch in at the longitudinal edges. Adhesive bonding in the connection is not necessary. The locking ensures that there is no horizontal relative displacement in the direction of the connec tion, with the result that the parallel state of the longitudinal edges of two interconnected boards is always ensured. Complex sawing in the vicinity of the room walls is thus done away with.

The groove on the longitudinal edge is preferably bounded by a top lip and a bottom lip, the bottom lip projecting laterally beyond the top lip and having a concave recess over the entire length, and the tongue having a convex underside which corresponds to the recess. This configuration allows two panels simply to be pivoted one into the other. By virtue of the bottom lip and the underside of the tongue being rounded, the panels are connected to one another without being able to brace themselves against one another.

If the longitudinal edges and the transverse edg es have a chamfer on their top side, with the result that a V - shaped joint is formed at the connecting location between two building boards, it is ensured that any fraying which may be caused by the strands at the

locations where the boards are cut is ~~some vert~~ removed and there are no disruptive protrusions when two boards are connected.

The board preferably comprises four layers, in which case, in the two outer layers, the longitudinal direction of the strands is oriented predominantly in the longitudinal direction of the board and, in the two inner layers, the longitudinal direction of the strands is oriented predominantly in the transverse direction of the board.

The strands are preferably glued with an isocyanate resin, a urea resin or a melamine resin.

If the top side of the boards is provided with markings, along which the boards can be fastened on the beams by means of screws or nails, the laying operation is simplified. The markings are provided at[ ] the predetermined unit spacing[ ]for the beams of, for example, 600 mm (standard dimension).

Preferably provided on the bottom lip of the groove, on the longitudinal and/or transverse side, are depressions, which are spaced apart parallel to one another and can accommodate a nail head or screw head, with the re sult that the means which fasten the building boards on the beams are fully countersunk.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

An exemplary embodiment[ ] of the invention will be explained in more detail hereinbelow with the aid of[] a drawing, in which:

Figure 1 shows a partial view of two bui[]lding boards which are connected to one another at their longitudinal edges;

Figure 2 shows a partial view of two building boards which are connected to one another on their

transverse sides;

Figure 3 shows a not yet completed subfloor made of the building boards according to the invention; and

Figure 4 shows a partial illustration from Figure 3.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

The building boards 1, 2, 3 comprise OSB (oriented strand boards). On one longitudinal edge I, the boards 1, 2 are provided with a groove 4, which is formed by a top lip 5 and a bottom lip 6. The bottom lip 6 projects laterally beyond the top lip 5. On the opposite longitudinal edge II, the boards 1, 2 are provided with a tongue 7 which corresponds to the groove 4. The top lip 5 of the groove 4 is inclined in the direction of the core of the board 1, with the result that the top lip 5 tapers in the outward direction. The front edge of the tongue 7 is bevelled in accordance with the underside of the top lip 5. As Figure 1 shows, the bottom lip 6 is provided ~~with~~ with a concave recess which corresponds to the convex underside of the tongue 7. Via the upwardly projecting extension 8 on the outer edge of the bottom lip 6, the interconnected boards 1, 2 are locked in the horizontal direction in relation to one another. In the direction of the top side, chamfers 9, 10 are provided on the edges I, II, this resulting in a V-shaped joint being produced at the connecting location between two interconnected boards. In order to avoid bracing at the connecting location, the tongue 7 is provided with a recess 11 at the end of its bevel corresponding to the top lip 5, and this recess serves as a dust pocket into which fine chippings can pass when the boards are being laid.

Figure 2 shows two boards 2, 3 which are connected to one another at their transverse edges III, IV. The boards 1, 2, 3 are of identical configuration. On the transverse edge III, the boards 1, 2, 3 are provided

with a groove 12, which is likewise formed by a top lip 13 and a bottom lip 14. The bottom lip 14 projects laterally beyond the top lip 13. The underside of the top lip 13 slopes slightly in the direction of the core of the board 3, with the result that the top lip 12 tapers outwards. The bottom lip 14 - as is also the case with the bottom lip 6 - is provided with a plurality of recesses 15 which are spaced apart parallel to one another and via which the boards 1, 2, 3 can be nailed or screwed to the beams 20 of the ceiling structure. The recesses 15 accommodate the nail head or screw head, with the result that the fastening means can be fully countersunk in the bottom lip 14. On the opposite transverse edge IV, the boards 1, 2, 3 are provided with a tongue 16 which corresponds to the groove 12. The boards 2, 3 connected to one another at the transvers e edges III, IV are not locked in the horizontal direction. It is also the case that chamfers 17, 18 are formed, in the direction of the top side of the boards, on the transverse edges III, IV, with the result that two interconnected boards, 2, 3 also form a V-shaped joint on the transverse sides.

On the top side, the boards 1, 2, 3 are provided in the transverse direction with markings 21 corresponding to the standard spacing between the beams 20 of 600 mm, with the result that the boards 1, 2, 3 need not be fastened on the beams 20 immediately after they have been connected to one another, rather this can take place at a later stage once the entire subfloor has been produced. If access openings 19 are to be made in the subfloor, the tongues 7, 16 and ~~groove~~ grooves 4, 12 have to be sawn off beforehand, as is illustrated in Figure 3.

The strands from which the board 1, 2, 3 is formed are distributed over four layers. In the two outer layers, their longitudinal direction is oriented in the direction of the longitudinal edges I, II of the boards

1, 2, 3. In the two central layers, the longitudinal direction of the strands is oriented in the direction of the transverse edges III, IV. This configuration gives rise to a high[ ]level of stability in the longitudinal dir ection of the boards in the cover layers. The chamfers 9, 10; 17, 18 provided along the edges I, II, III, IV[ ]result in any sawing[ ]-induced roughness produced by protruding strand parts being eliminated, with the result that there is no possibility of any pr[ ]estressing at the connecting location between two interconnected boards.